



# Idaho Geological Survey (IGS)

2009-2013

## STRATEGIC PLAN

# Idaho Geological Survey

## VISION STATEMENT

The Idaho Geological Survey vision is to provide the state with the best geologic information possible through strong and competitive applied research, effective program accomplishments, and transparent access. We are committed to the advancement of the science and emphasize the practical application of geology to benefit society. We seek to accomplish our responsibilities through *service and outreach, research, and education* activities.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Idaho Geological Survey is the lead state agency for the collection, interpretation, and dissemination of geologic and mineral data for Idaho. The agency has served the state since 1919 and prior to 1984 was named the Idaho Bureau of Mines and Geology.

Members of the Idaho Geological Survey staff acquire geologic information through field and laboratory investigations and through cooperative programs with other governmental and private agencies. The Idaho Geological Survey's geologic mapping program is the primary applied research function of the agency. The Survey's Digital Mapping Laboratory is central to compiling, producing, and delivering new digital geologic maps. Other main Idaho Geological Survey programs include geologic hazards, hydrology, mining, mine safety training, abandoned and inactive mines inventory, and earth science education outreach. As Idaho grows, demand is increasing for geologic information related to population growth, energy- mineral- and water-resource development, landslide hazards and earthquake monitoring.

## AUTHORITY

Idaho Code provides for the creation, purpose, duties, reporting, offices, and advisory board of the Idaho Geological Survey. The Code specifies the authority to conduct investigations and establish cooperative projects and seek research funding. The Idaho Geological Survey publishes an Annual Report as required by its enabling act.

## Service and Outreach

**Goal 1:** Achieve excellence in collecting and disseminating geologic information and mineral data to the mining, energy, agriculture, utility, construction, insurance, and banking industries, educational institutions, civic and professional organizations, elected officials, governmental agencies, and the public. Continue to strive for increased efficiency and access to Survey information primarily through publications, Web site products, in-house collections and customer inquiries. Emphasize Web site delivery of

digital products and compliance with new revision of state documents requirements (Idaho Code 33-2505).

**Objective 1: Develop and publish survey documents**

*Performance Measure:* Number of Published Reports on Geology/Hydrology/Hazards/Mineral Resources

*Benchmark:* The number of published reports will be equal to or greater than the preceding year.

**Objective 2: Build and deliver Web site products**

*Performance Measure:* Number of Web site Products Used

*Benchmark:* The number of Website products used will be equal to or greater than the preceding year

**Objective 3: Sustain Idaho State Documents Depository Program and Georef Catalog (International)**

*Performance Measure:* Percentage of total Survey documents available

*Benchmark:* 100%

**Research**

**Goal 2:** Promote, foster, and sustain a climate for research excellence. Develop existing competitive strengths in geological expertise. Maintain national level recognition and research competitiveness in digital geological mapping techniques. Sustain and build a strong research program through interdisciplinary collaboration with academic institutions, and state and federal land management agencies.

**Objective 1: Sustain and enhance geological mapping and related studies**

*Performance Measure:* Increase the geologic map coverage of Idaho by mapping in priority areas designated by Idaho Geological Mapping Advisory Committee (square miles).

*Benchmark:* Increase in cumulative percent of Idaho's area covered by modern geologic mapping.

**Objective 2: Sustain and build research funding**

*Performance Measure:* Externally funded grant and contract dollars

*Benchmark:* The number of externally funded grant and contract dollars compared to five year average.

**Education**

**Goal 3:** Support knowledge and understanding of Idaho's geologic setting and resources through earth science education. Achieve excellence in scholarly and creative activities through collaboration and building partnerships that enhance teaching, discovery, and lifelong learning.

**Objective 1: Develop and deliver earth science education programs and public presentations**

*Performance Measure:* Educational programs for public audiences

*Benchmark:* The number of educational presentations will be equal to or greater than the previous year.

**Key External Factors:**

**Funding:**

Achievement of strategic goals and objectives is dependent on appropriate state funding.

External research support is mostly subject to federal program funding and increasing state competition for federal programs. Because most federal programs require a state match the capability to match grants depends on state funds.

**Demand for services and products:**

Changes in demand for geologic information due to energy and minerals economics play an important role in achievement of strategic goals and objectives. State population growth and requirements for geologic information by public decision makers and land managers are also key external factors.